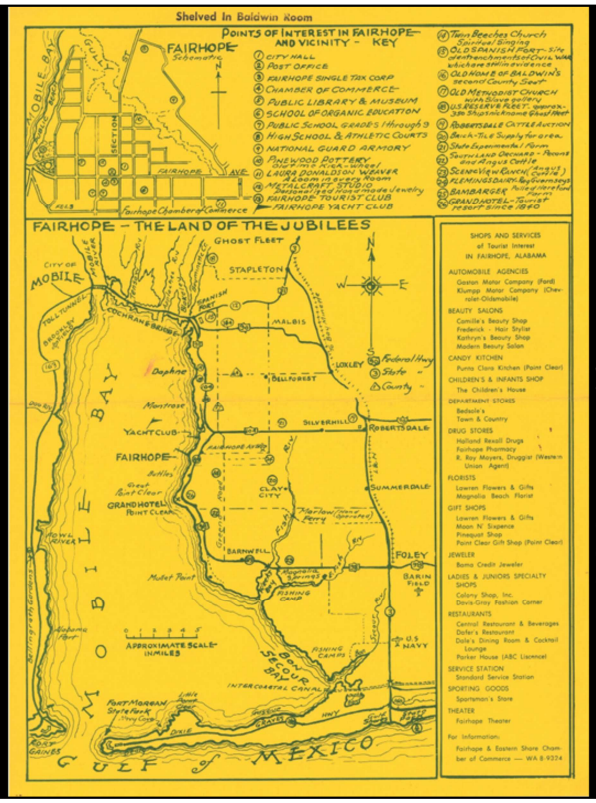
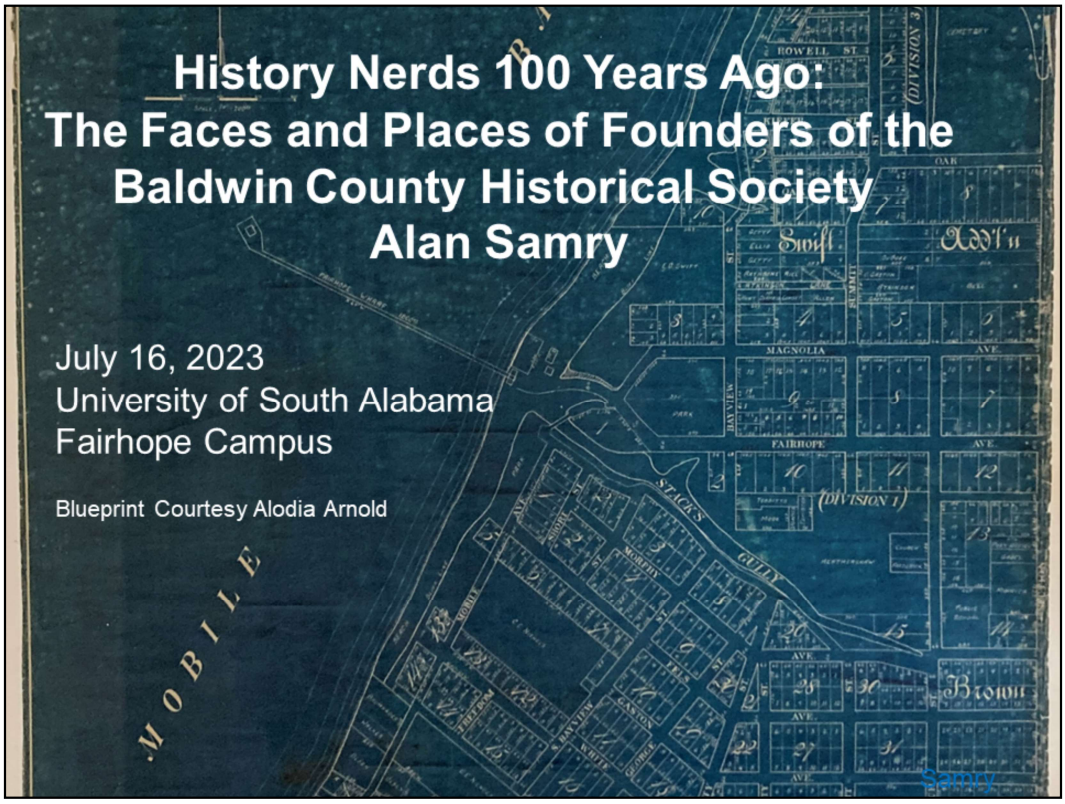
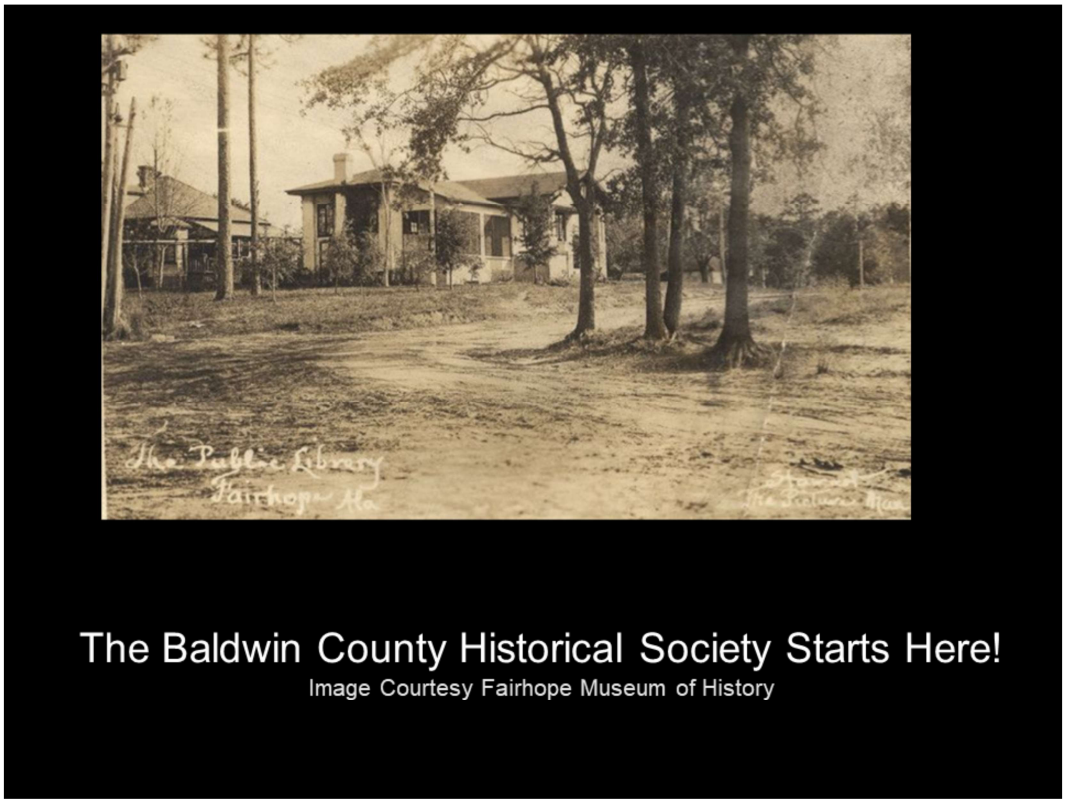


Introductory Slide
Fairhope-Land of the Jubilees
Walter Overton 1939 Map
Presentation dedicated to my wife Susan, and to educators, librarians, historians.
Digital scan of map available at archive.org.
Search Walter Overton



What am I going to talk about today?
My talk will attempt to make a most linear timeline to take you back in time from 1923-1928. Using portraits, homes, and meeting places, I'll try to connect the members of those early days to the places where they lived and where the society met.
It's a tall task, and I ask you to bear with me as we make a bit of a detour with Willie Taylor, whose ancestors were never allowed to be part of the organization.
For nerds in the room, don't feel like you have to take notes. I will include my PP, notes and links in the next newsletter or meeting reminder.. Make a note when the question pops in your mind
Summit Street Key Places



The Baldwin County Historical Society Starts Here!
Fairhope Public Library, an important place during the early years
A Brief History of Baldwin County
More Librarians than lawyers in the early years of the society 1919-1925.

Lydia Comings- Samuel Comings
Arrived in Fairhope, 1903
The House of Ten Gables,
Physical education teacher, librarian,
Women's Christian Temperance Union, Suffragist, helps organize
Helps found School of Organic Education
President of Fairhope Single Tax Corporation
Queen of Clubs, Federated Women's Club
I've done a whole program for the society on Lydia Comings.

April 8, 1923
People's Cooperative Supply and People's Lunch Cooperative hall, second floor
Lydia Comings called the meeting, and on account of rain, only one other person at the meeting

Capt. John Bowen (1841-1930)

Single Tax Colony theory. Say what you will about cemetery that was established when Article XIII of the Fairhope (Photo courtesy of Hazel Agron)

John Bowen as he was photographed later in his life.

John Bowen, far right, with his two brothers, in his Civil War uniform. Born in 1841, Bowen was buried in the Fairhope Colony Cemetery in 1930. (Photo courtesy of Hazel Agron)

Fairhope Museum of History Files

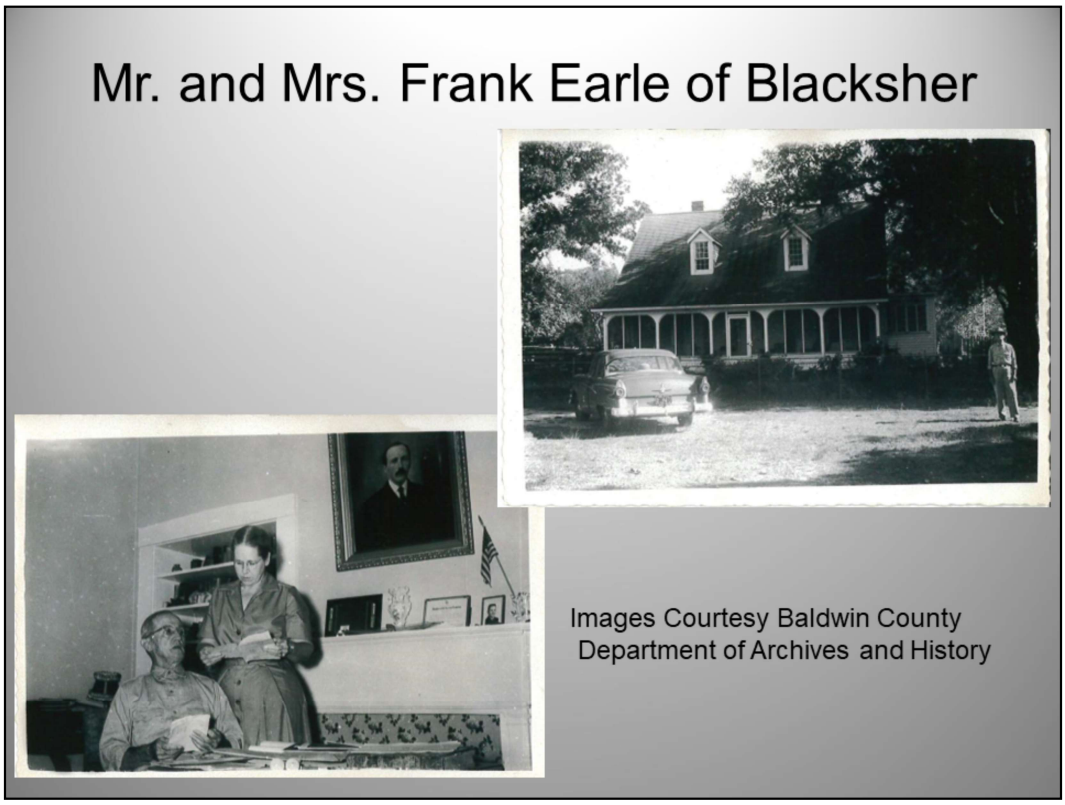
The Logsdon farm house on Greeno Road Fairhope, AL. About 1921

Sylvia, her father John Bowen and son Billy

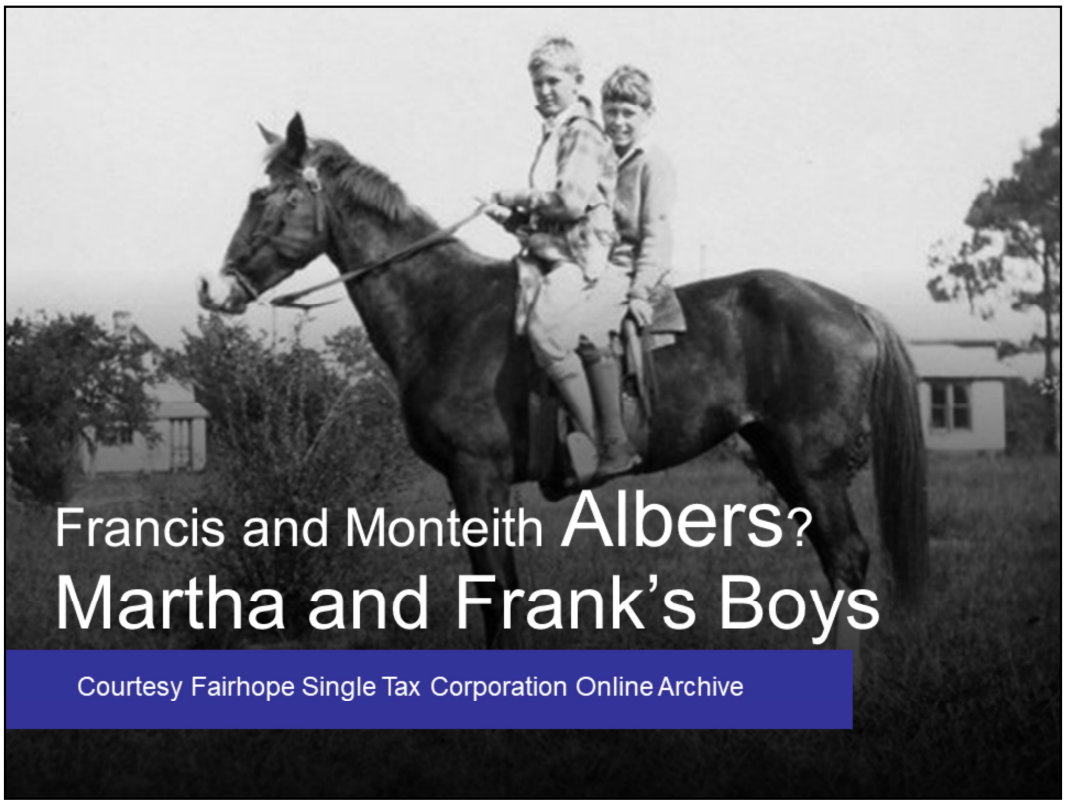
Bowen, John. Union soldier, survived Andersonville, the Confederate POW Camp
Captain John Bowen, father of Mike and Tom
1841-1930
Lived in a small cottage, still standing, on the east side near the end of North Summit
POW File requested from National Park Service available at Fairhope Museum of History.
The Logsdon Home, (top right) still standing on the corner of Greeno Road and 104.

Second Meeting Place, Organized First Day of Summer 1923
Fairhope Christian Church
Image Courtesy Fairhope Museum of History

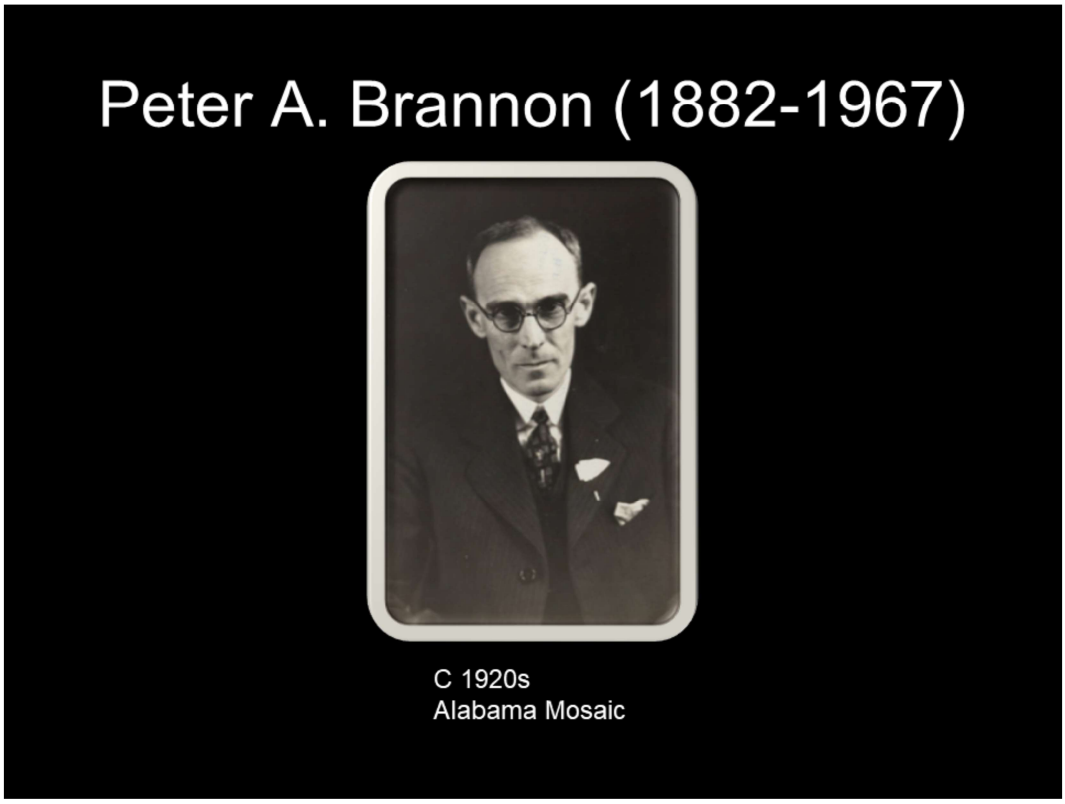
June 21, 1923
Fairhope Christian Church was just a block from where we are gathered that this organization came into being.
This is where it became official
Fairhope Christian Church, School is now Fairhoper's Park, Beckner House, still there.
Be on the lookout for Stainless steel plaques, FSTC Education committee scan QR for a history of the building and its uses.
Left of the church is the Fairhope School, built by C. Littlefield, where Fairhopers Park is today.
Next home to the left is the Beckner House now the Fairhope Inn. Scan Stainless steel plaque on building for more history.



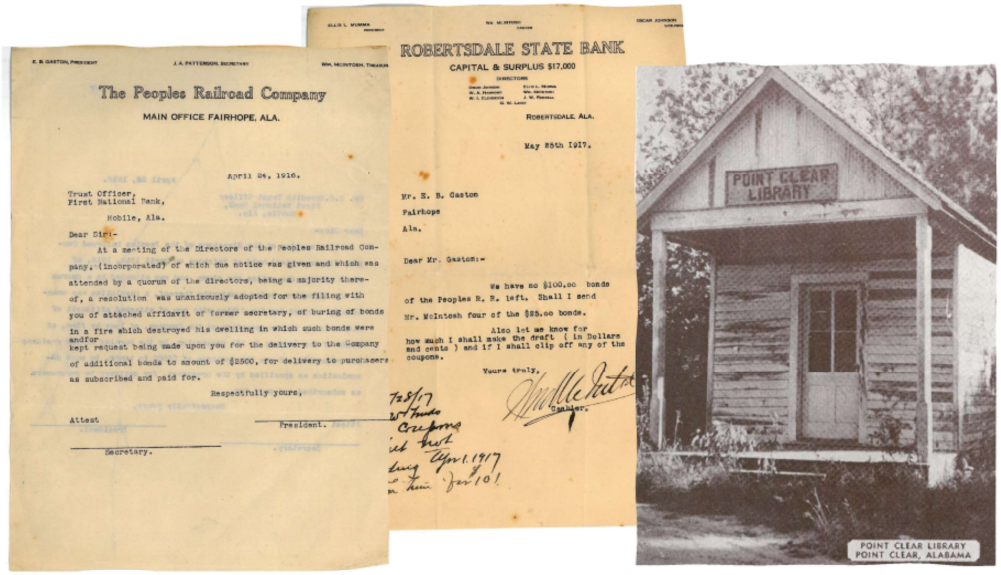
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Earle Blacksher VP
His family goes back to before the massacre at Fort Mims
Earle and I have something in common.
We both served as Vice President BCHS, He was the first, I was six millionth
Frank Earle Founded Baldwin EMC
Donated property with gravesites, including William Weatherfords to the BCHS
I don't even own land, I'm a lesee of the FSTC



Martha Albers
I searched but didn't find a photograph of Martha Albers
Photo of Francis Albers, (left) c 1920, possibly with his younger brother, Monteith.
Her husband Frank was in the insurance business and Martha and Lydia toured the county with Francis in May of 1923 to learn the history and meet local historians.



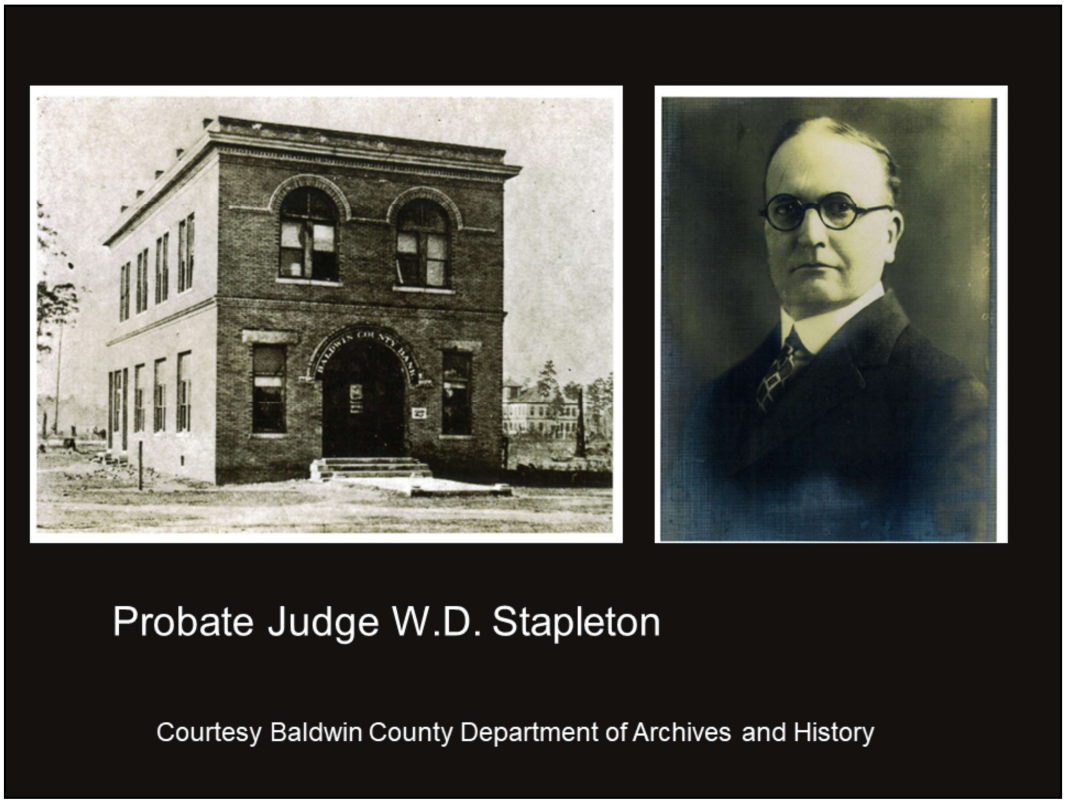
Peter A Brannon 1882-1967
50 years with Alabama Dept of Archives and History
Curator, archivist, and director of Alabama Department of Archives and History
He donated a large amount of the family collection he inherited to the ADAH
“Colossus of knowledge”
photograph from Alabama Mosaic
Protection of state archaeological sites from relic hunters.



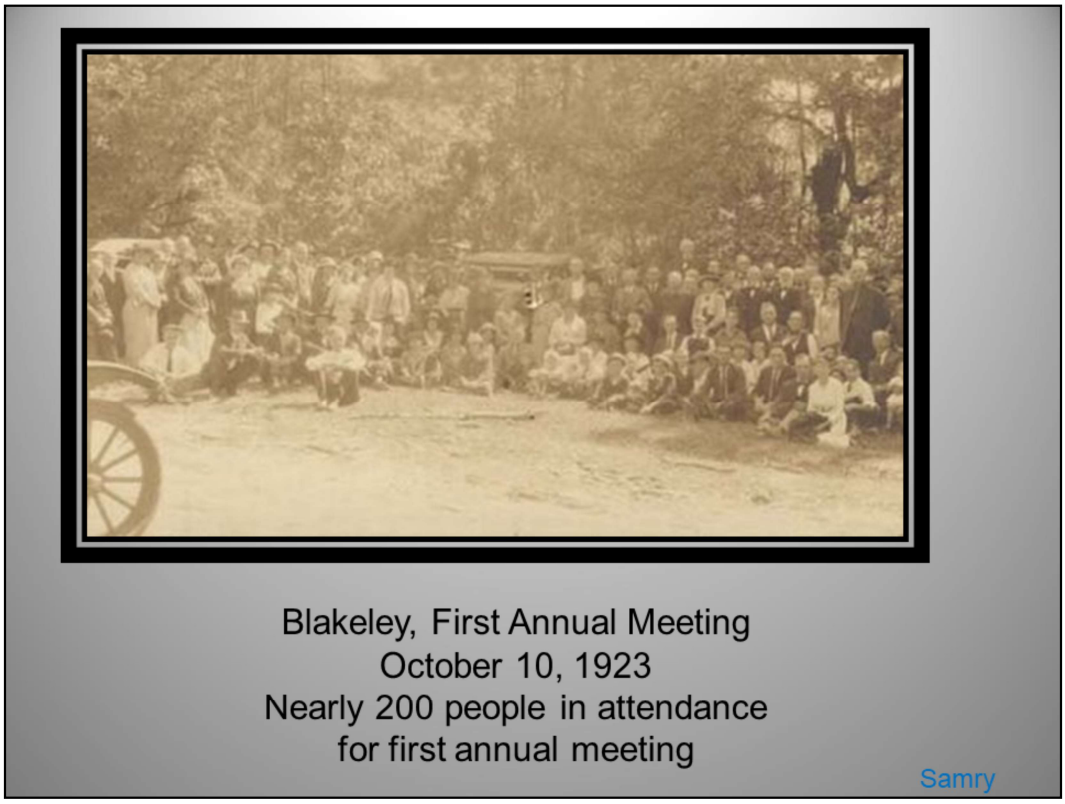
Wm. McIntosh, Mrs. O.E. Zundel

Courtesy Fairhope Single Tax Corporation Online Archive

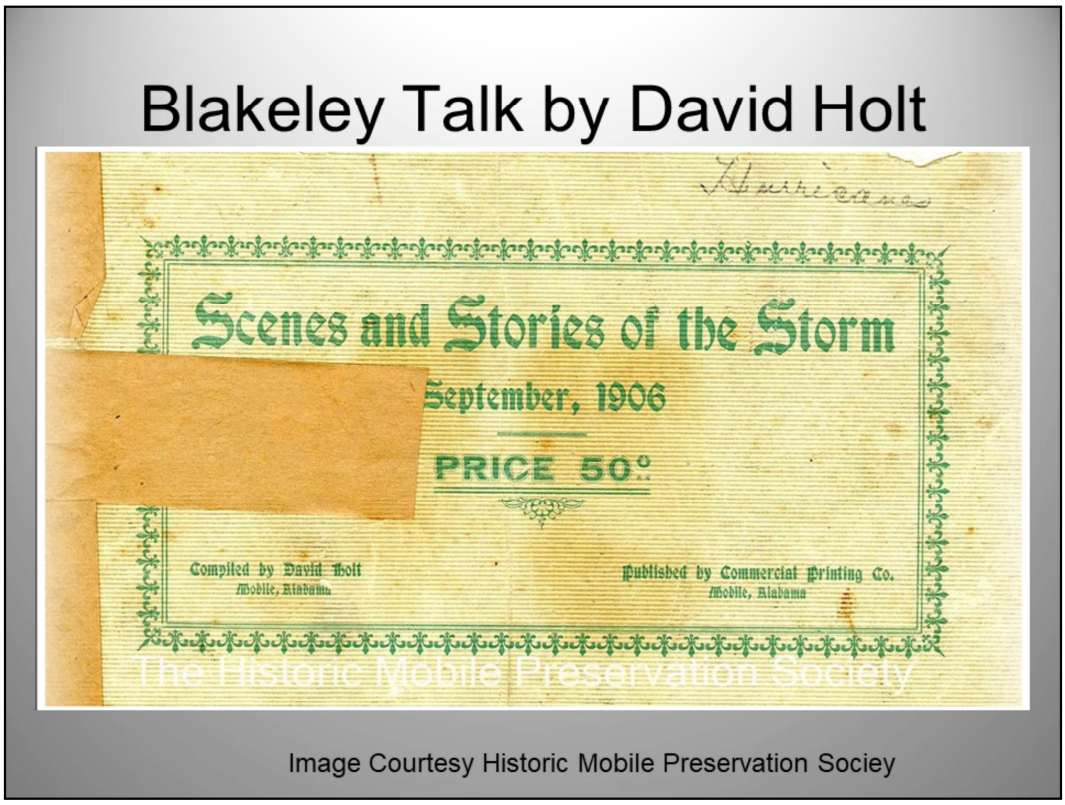
William McIntosh
Treasurer of Robertsdale State Bank
And treasurer of the People's Railroad
Mrs. O. E. Zundels BCHS Secretary (resigns)
She was the first Point Clear Librarian
Photograph of the Point Clear Library in Point Clear, Alabama. The 13 by 14 foot building was constructed by William H. Hall in 1903 for use as a barbershop. By 1920, the community opened a public library in the building with approximately 2,400 books. The building was moved several times, and is currently on private property in Point Clear, and no longer used as a library.
FSTC Notes Information about the Library is from "Battles Wharf & Point Clear" by Florence Scott and Richard Scott (1971). Additional background is from "The Point Clear Library" by Watt Key, originally published in "The Mobile Bay Monthly" magazine.
Her husband, was the first Point Clear Postmaster



Judge W.D. Stapleton BM
Stapleton's are everywhere, in Stapleton yes,
Before Stapleton was Stapleton it was Canby, Alabama.
Had it's PO in 1895
After it got a stop on the L&N Railroad Canby was renamed Stapleton
President of Baldwin County Bank
county depository BM 1909-1920
(Sidebar Not discussed) Also, Dave Stapleton Born in Fairhope was utility infielder in the 1980s with the Boston Red Sox. Graduate of Robertsdale High, went to Univ. South AL, went to the World Series in 1986 and I wish Stapleton, and not Bill Buckner, was playing first base in game 6 of the 1986 World Series. Lives in Daphne.



October 10, 1923
Blakeley
Feel certain Martha Albers is there, but where?
The Kiwanis also joined the society at the meeting
Photo around the Washington Spring
Image Courtesy Baldwin County Historical Society



Speaker David Holt
“Scenes and Stories of the Storm”
Historic Mobile Preservation Society

Jackson's Oak

Annual Meeting, October 15, 1924
Courtesy Fairhope Museum of History

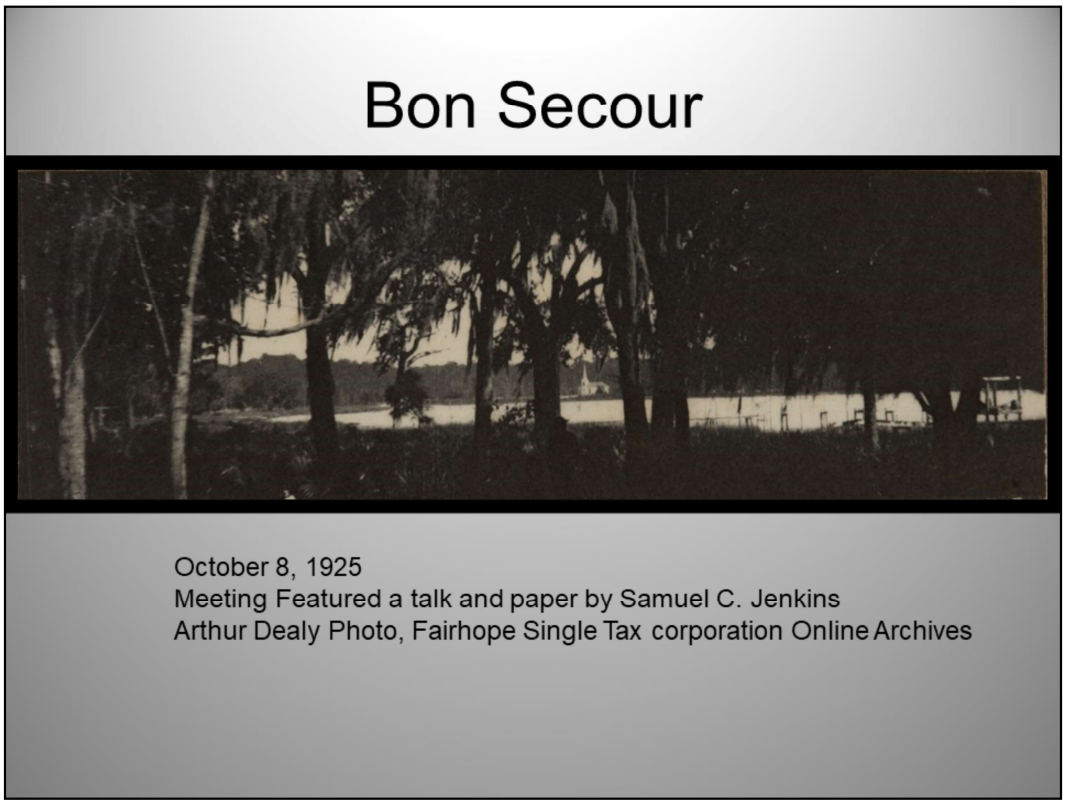
Oct. 15, 1924
Jackson Oak

Frank Stone Spoke

Frank Stone Jr. On Wheelbarrow
Judge Charles Hall to his left

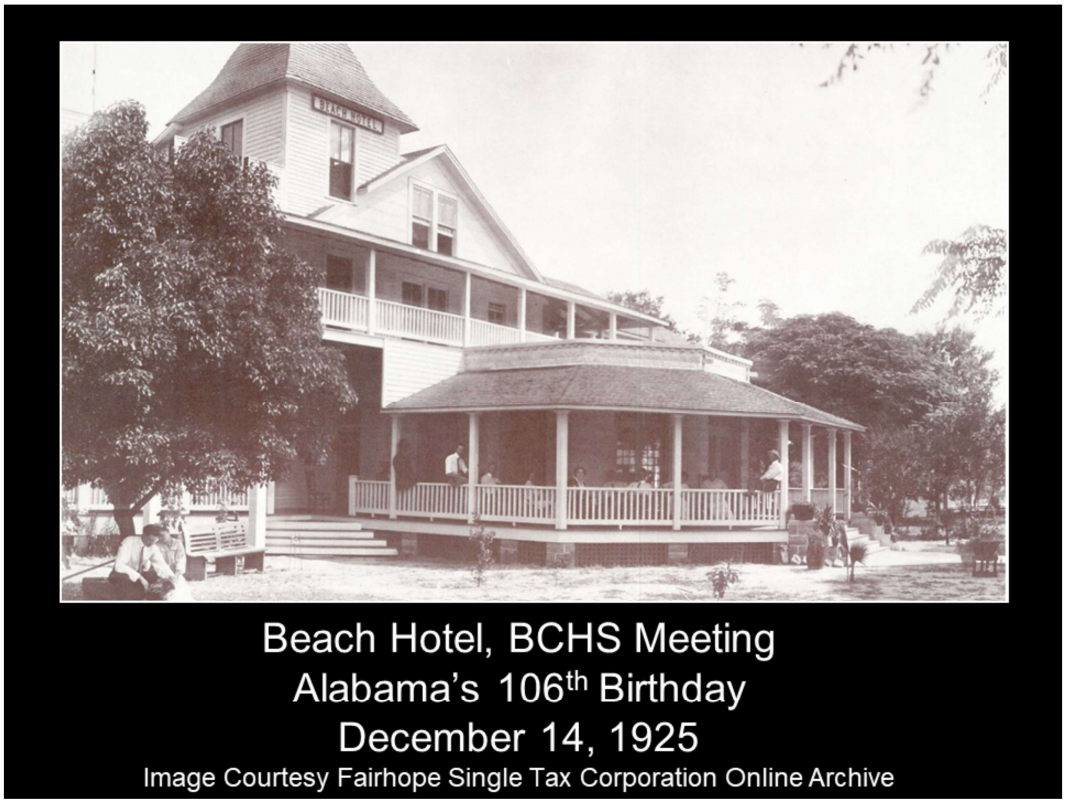
Baldwin County, Arcadia Publishing, 2009
Outlaw and Lewis

Frank Stone
In the wheelbarrow
A Mason and Pythian Knight
1903 moved to BM
Baldwin County Prosecutor
Courthouse where this picture is taken in
Political wager
Frank Stone won, Judge Charles Hall has to wheel him around the courthouse.
Joseph Blackburn on drum.

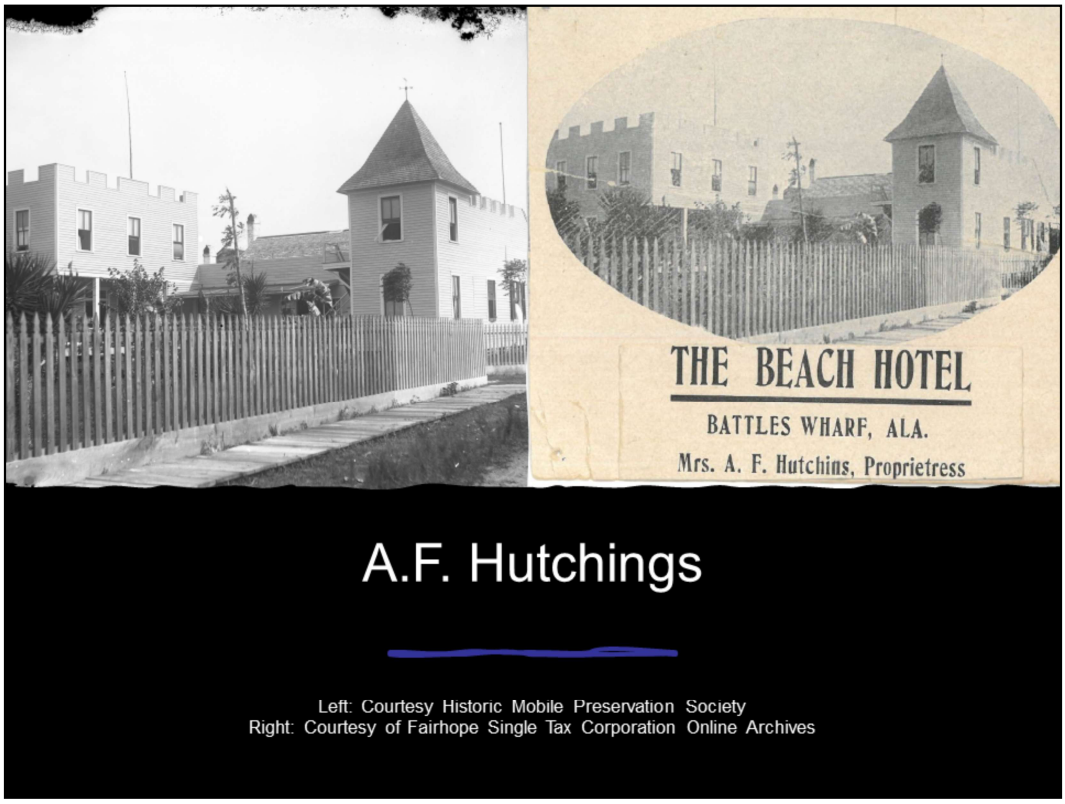


Oct 8, 1925
Bon Secour
Samuel C. Jenkins
Swift School students attend

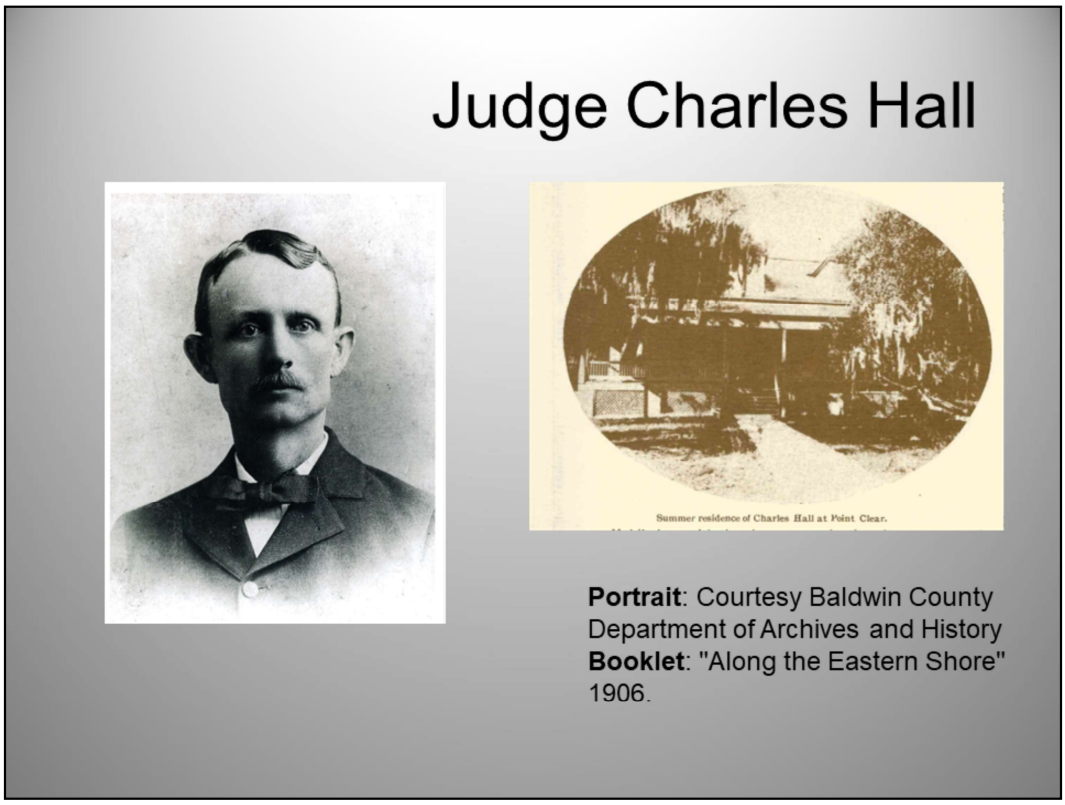
Church, St. Peter's By the Sea



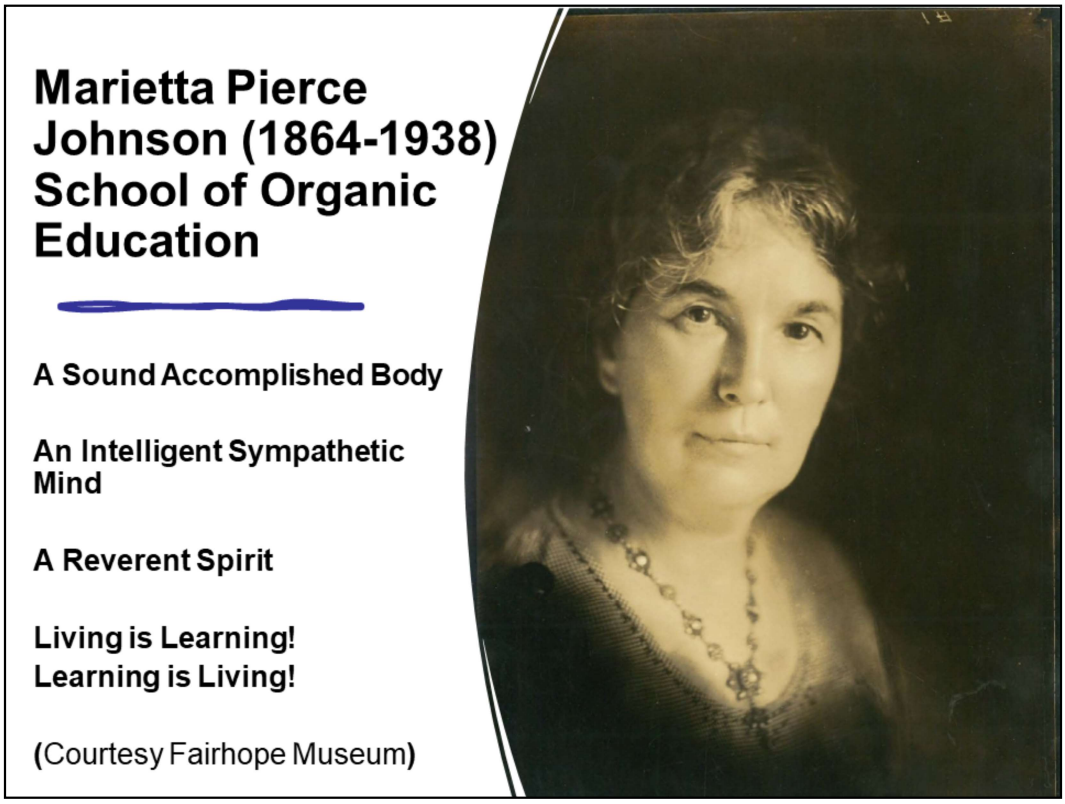
December 14, 1925
106th Birthday for Alabama
Beach Hotel
Captain N.L. Durant fixes up Blakeley
Photograph, not dated, of the Beach Hotel in Battles Wharf, Alabama. It included an old 1842 log cabin onto which owners Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Hutchings added a hotel building after buying it in 1903-1904. The hotel burned in 1931



After which the widowed Mrs. Hutchings and daughter Miss Grace Hutchings rebuilt the "new Beach Hotel." In 1944, Miss Hutchings retired, and the property was acquired by Government Street Presbyterian Church in Mobile for use as a summer retreat, called Baytreat.



Speaker Judge Charles
Charles Hall
Supervised courthouse move from Daphne to Bay Minette, including the relocation of his desk and court records.



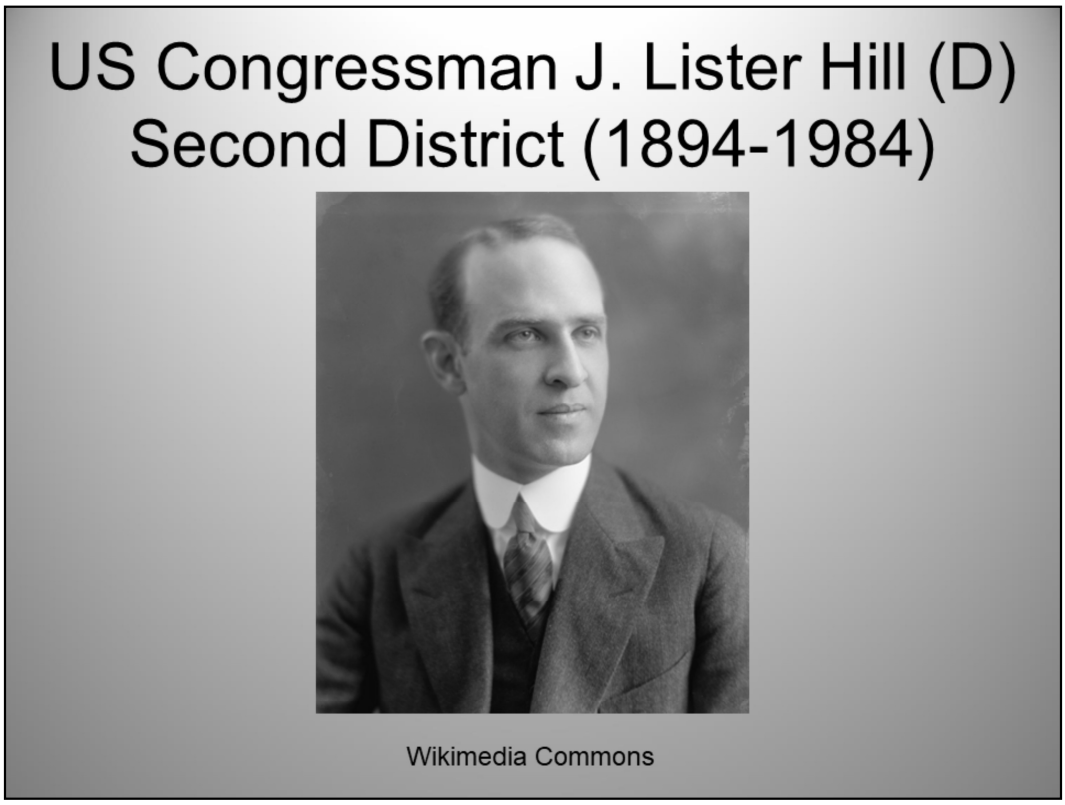
Marietta Johnson
So much to say about Marietta Johnson, someone needs to write her biography.

Montgomery Hill Baptist Church
Tensas, Alabama October 13, 1927

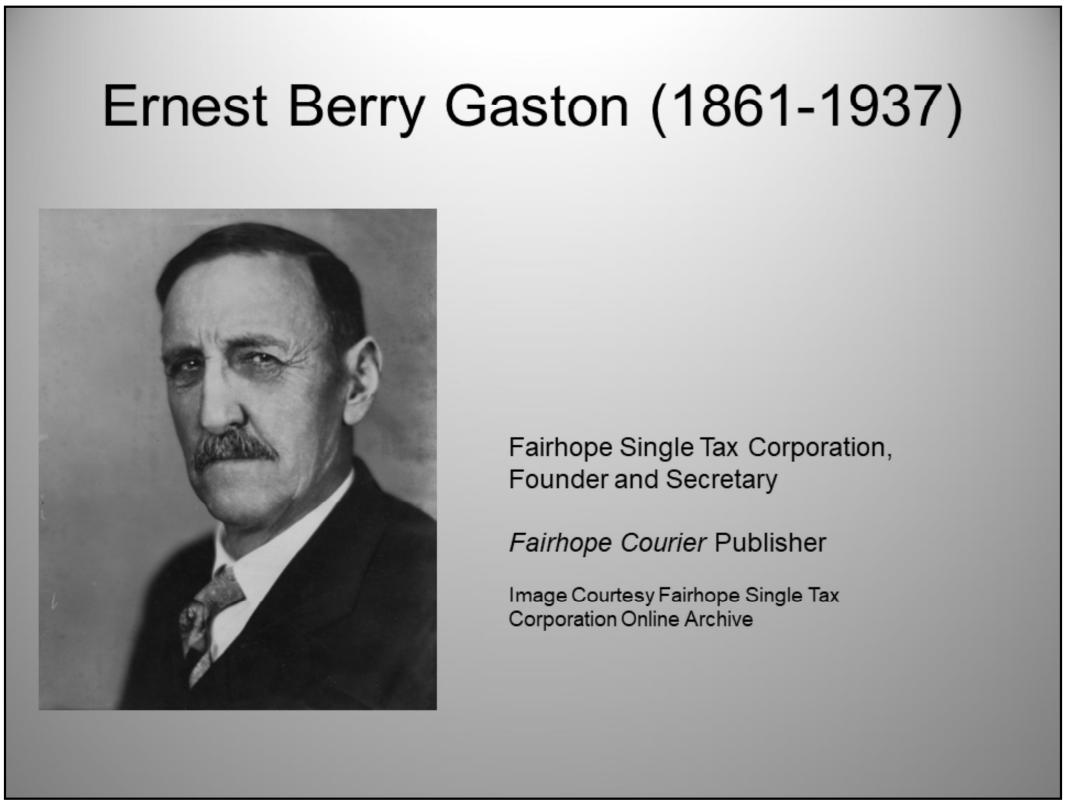
Mayne Belt photograph of Montgomery Hill Baptist Church, 1905
Courtesy Martin McGuire and Montgomery Hill Baptist Church

Samry

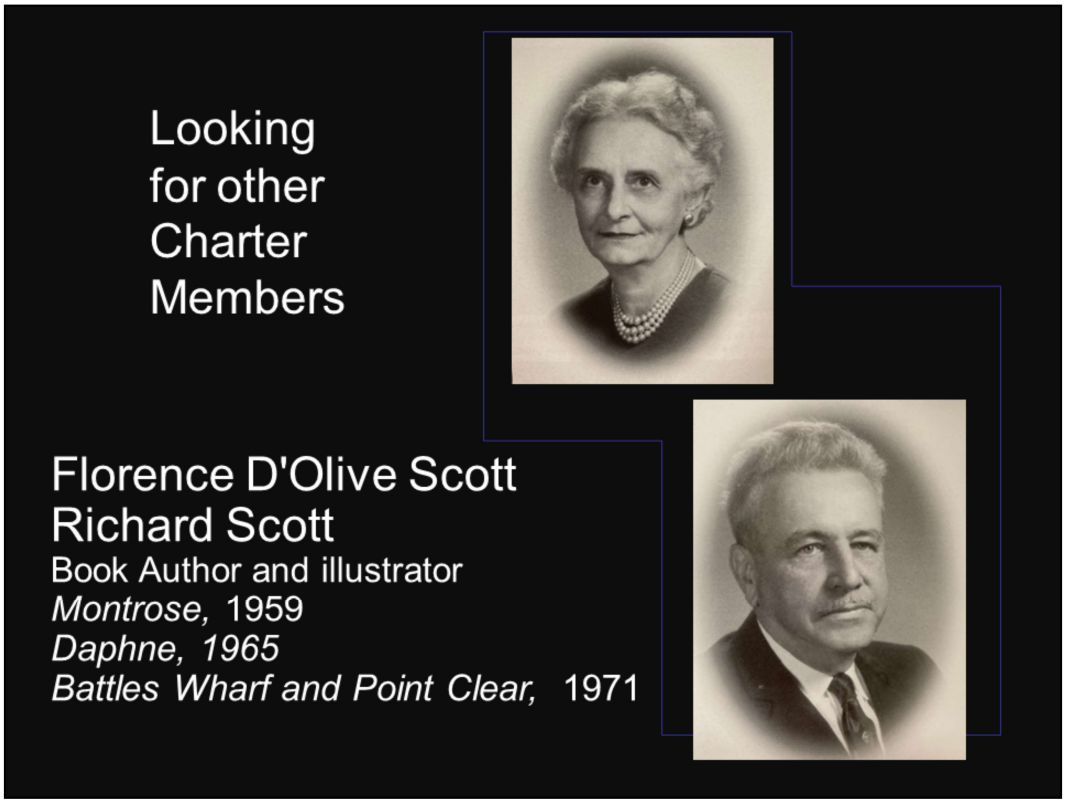
Oct. 13, 1927
Baptist Church Tensas
Frank Earle, featured speaker.
Unveiling of a Steel Marker



Lister Hill also speaks to the gathering.



E.B. Gaston also addresses the group at Montgomery Hill.
Fairhope's and the Fairhope STC founding father
Publisher of the *Fairhope Courier.*



While searching Early Charter Members of the society I found in Florence and Richard Scott's books, I remembered the sketch of the AME Church in Montrose.
In 1959 Mrs. Scott wrote Our negro Citizens. Willie Taylor knew the Scotts, so without further ado, Willie Taylor

Willie G. Taylor

Home in Montrose Where I grew up

Little Red School House Bicentennial Park Stockton, Alabama

My paternal grandmother, Louvenia Alberta Parker Taylor Benjamin, and Florence D'Olive Scott were born January 1895.

SENTIMENTAL REFLECTIONS AND TRUE EXPERIENCES

A. Poem: Here, There, Somewhere, Everywhere by Willie Taylor July 2023
B. Paternal grandmother, Florence D'Olive Scott, Clara Maschmeyer
C. Week's Bay---paternal grandfather, Henry "Tooty" Taylor
D. Point Clear, Zundel's, Tatumville, Houstonville, Fairhope, Anna T. Jeans, Olivette Juzang Power,Eleanor Power Harpe, Orlando Power, Morse relatives
E. Montrose---Musician great-grandfather George Parker, Cousin Jasper Morse, son of Daniel Morse and Amy Valrie Morse, great grandfather Samuel E. Taylor, Mom Vinia Mae Hill Taylor, Dad Wilmer Joseph Taylor, Bailey Dale, Aunt Georgia Amelia Sterling Loeb Bracy Ramsey, Valries, Hunters, Ivan Stanton, step- grandfather Pearlie Ghaskin, Crawfords, Embassy Lounge became Judge Roy Bean, Concordia Lutheran, Montrose AME
F. Daphne---Lucy Dick, Russell Dick, Bessie Hayes, Lucy Dick Wright, Frank Manci, BCTS, Mary Ellen Coreneli, Little Bethel, Macedionia, Paradise Inn (Beach), Leon Loeb, Mamie Quinney, Robert L. Yuille
G. Spanish Fort, Blakeley, Bromley, Great uncle Percy Walker Morris, Rebecca Thompkins

Samry

There, Somewhere, Everywhere

My hope, my love, my strength, my peace
My purpose prevails secure
My perseverance will not cease
The POWERFORCED WILL remains pure

My hope and my strength are steadfast
My CREATOR is my fortress
For my actions the die is cast
To yield continuous progress

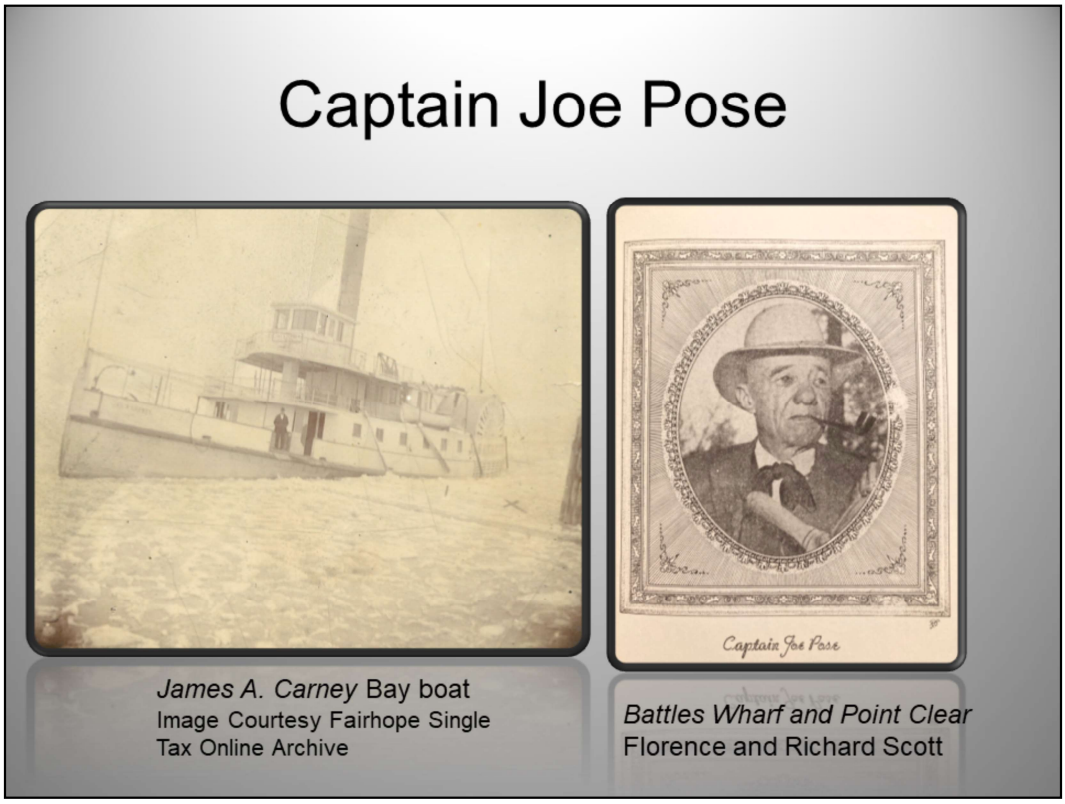
Equitably unbiased results
Positive possibilities
A superb time calmly exults
Established true actualities

Connected efforts are the quest
To entice desired ambitions
With due diligence to attest
Each participant's volition

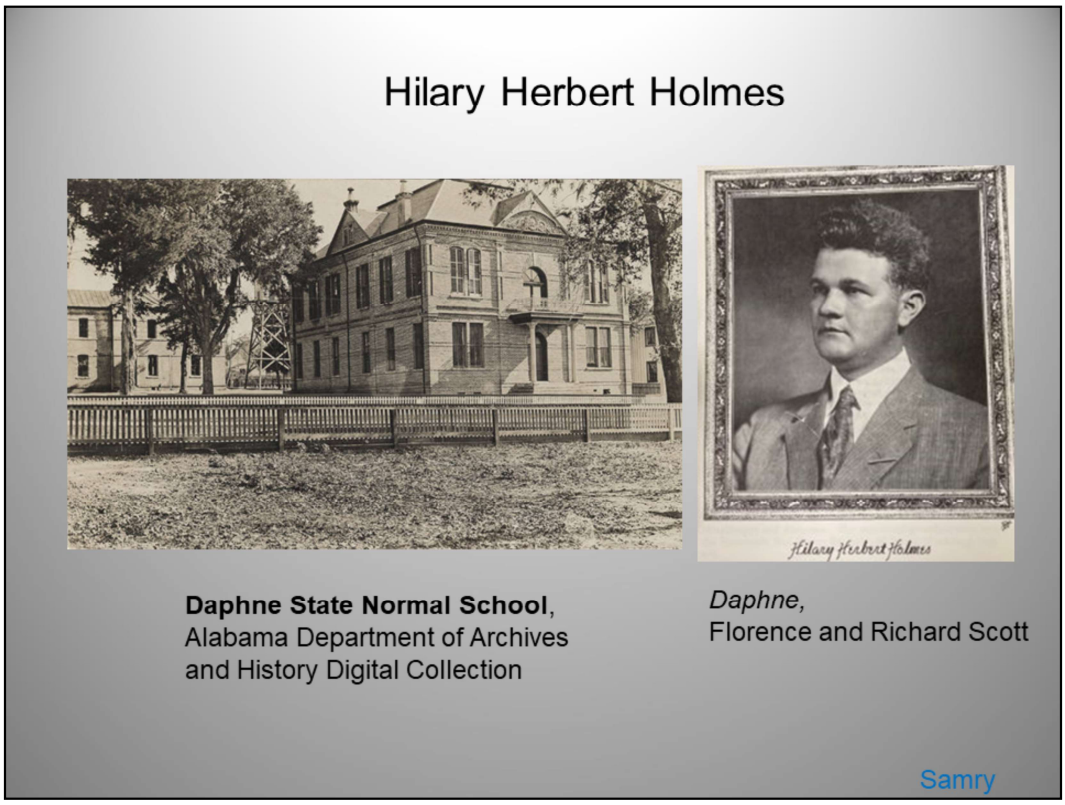
Here, there, somewhere I'd like to be
Contributing most of my time
As a committed devotee
Whose efforts are truly sublime

Deserving to gain one's just due
Is a viable phenomenon
Worthwhile for each one to pursue
True knowledge which one can rely on

Samry

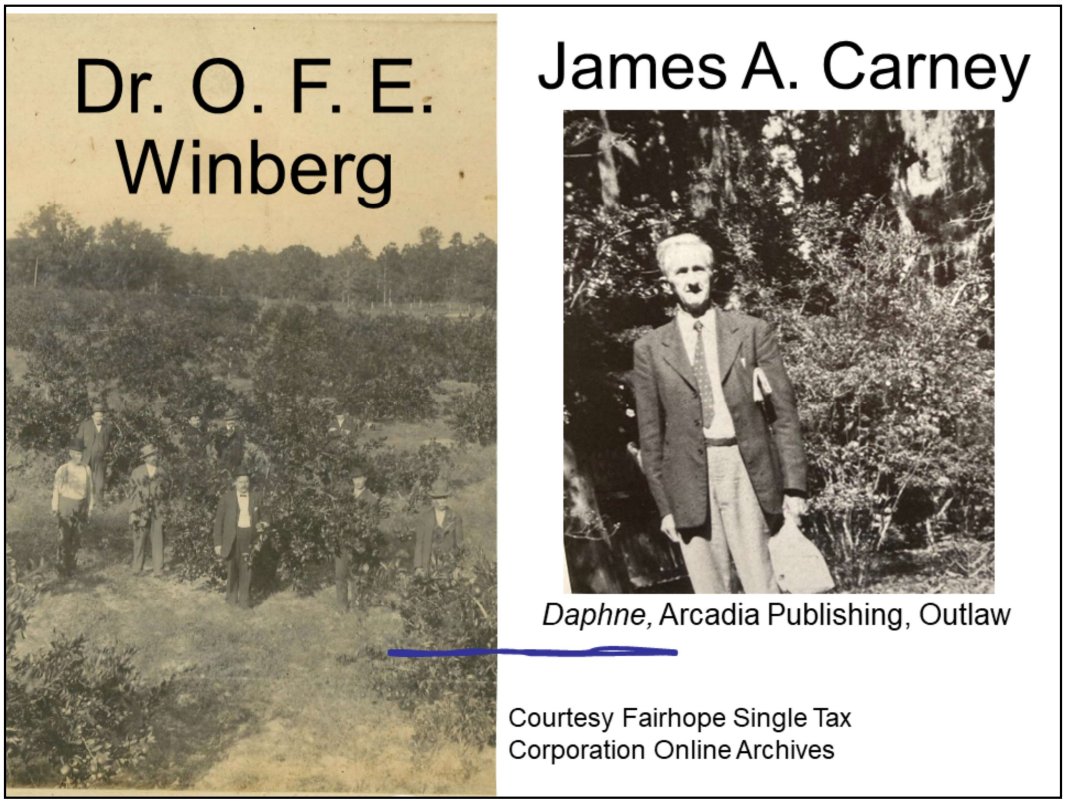


When I started reading some background, I flipped right to Captain Joe Pose, son of a Spanish immigrant turned citizen Joaquine Pose.
Captain Pose, seen here with the *James A Carney* under duress from ice.
Captain Pose is a lively figure, we know this because he is the only person mentioned in all three of the Scott's books.
Pose was living in Daphne near the end of the Bay Boat Era.
He was owner or part owner of several bay boats, including the Daphne, New Daphne, and the Josie.
In 1928 he was living in Daphne and was captain of the Josie
He was awarded a silver cup filled with cash for his service.
Always willing to go shopping in Mobile for the ladies too.



Hilary Herbert Holmes
Holmes family was from Fort Mims and his grandfather survived the Fort Mims Massacre.
He became the third president of the Daphne State Normal School.

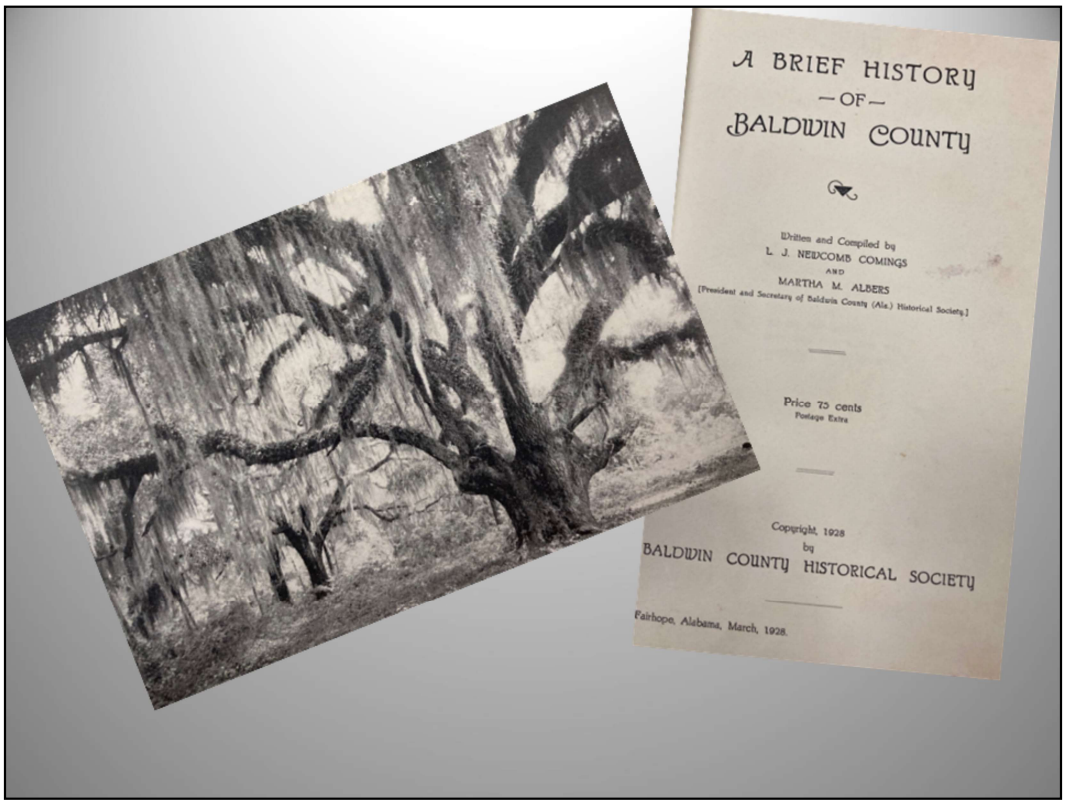
Captain Jack Cross, with Roderick Mackenzie
Cross Served in the Westminster Guard during Queen Victoria's reign
The sage of Fairhope wife Eloise ran the Gables Hotel
And then in 1925 built their own hotel the Fiarhope hotel.
Roderick Mackenzie, in 1926 had been chosen by the State Capitol Commission to execute eight murals for the rotunda of the Alabama State Capitol. The series, depicting episodes from Alabama history, demonstrates MacKenzie's proven abilities with large-scale painting. In addition to the eight canvases, which are still on display, he designed all the decorative plasterwork.



Charter Members of the BCHS
James A. Carney
Another guy with a (dead) town named after him

Photograph by Mary C. Rathje of men in a satsuma grove in Fairhope, Alabama. Dr. O.F.E. Winberg, president of the Gulf Coast Horticultural Society stands at the far right.

Gill Printing
A Brief History of Baldwin County Publisher,
St. Michael St
Later 17 and 19 Water St.



Brief History of Baldwin County was published
ay Cost to order the book in advance 50 cents
At the meeting 75 sents
Sold at the Bank of Fairhope, Fairhope Courier office
Around the second printing, in August 1928 Martha Albers
1928 She ran for town Alderman/now the city council
1928 August 16 Courier
“Known in town and throughout the county”
Red Cross, Tuberculosis Society, BCHS
“Organizing and executive ability of the highest order”
1931 Albers to Alabama Library Association Annual in Tuscaloosa
1933 Son Monteith Albers, Organic School of Education Graduate 1933
Frank her husband dies in 1944
Remarries Martha Albers Johnston, Dies in 1955
Mrs. Frank Albers Mrs. Samuel Comings until the book.

Then Martha Albers and Lydia Newcomb Comings

Annual Meeting
Daphne Methodist Church
October 11, 1928

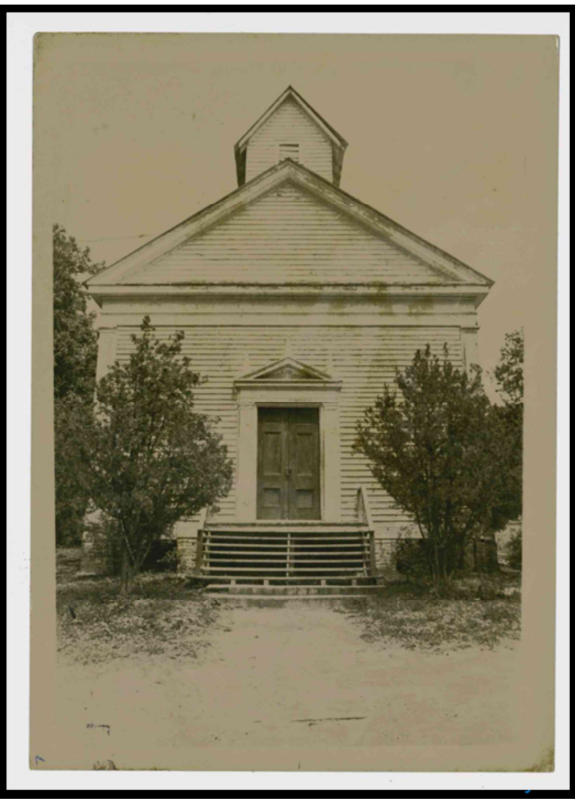
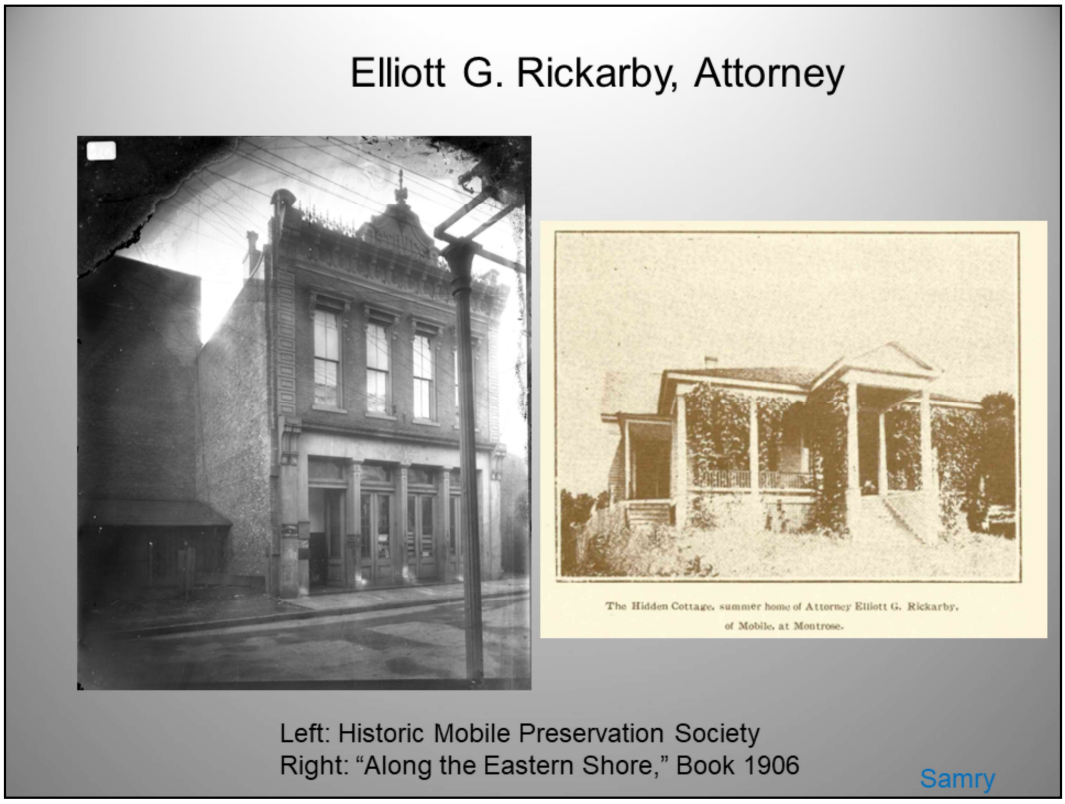


Image Courtesy
Fairhope Public Library

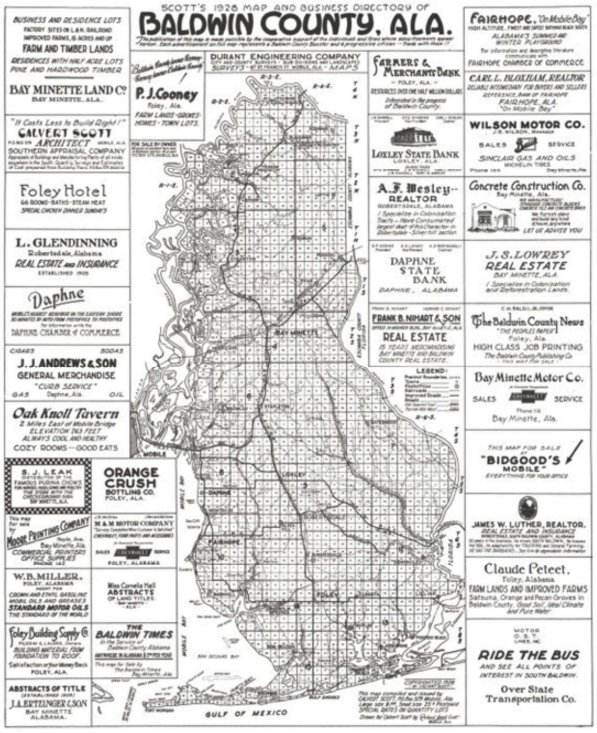
October 11 1928
Annual Meeting
Daphne Methodist Church



Elliott Garrow Rickarby talks about President Andrew "Old Hickory" Jackson

Epilogue
Fairhope Public Library
1925
Lydia Comings
May 1952 Mention of the opening of the Lydia N. Comings County Museum located inside the
The Baldwin County Center, Old Daphne Normal
Mary Heath Lee 1921-1939
Martha Albers 1930-1934
A museum was always the goal.
It started with a glass case in the library.
Donations from Frank Stone, Lydia Comings, Clement Coleman, Af Hutchings
John Bowen's collection
Lydia Comings
May 1952 Mention of the opening of the Lydia N. Comings County Museum located inside the The Baldwin County Center, Old Daphne Normal
Bowen's and dozens of other artifacts were loaned to the Fort Morgan Museum in 1967 to Mr. Roger Kirkland
John Bowen's collection Mummied finger that Fairhopers remember is on display at the museum

Thank You!
Ask Questions!



All Roads Lead to Blakeley!!

October 15, 2023
100th BCHS Birthday Picnic

alansamry @gmail.com

Calvert Scott Map 1928
Courtesy University of Alabama Online Map Collection

Samry

Calvert Scott Map from 1928
For $100, Become a Lifetime Member of the BCHS!
On to Blakeley!!